IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Boyce et al.

Examiner: Pellegrino, Brian E

Serial No.:

09/610,026

Group: Art Unit 3738

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Dated: July 30, 2002 ROMOLOGY CENTER POR

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Box: AF

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 13, 2002, applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims for the reasons set forth in the following remarks.

REMARKS:

The Examiner has made final the rejection of Claims 1, 3-7, 10-13 and 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for anticipation by Chen et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,707,962 ("Chen et al."). The Examiner has also made final the rejection of Claims 2, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over Chen et al.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: July 30, 2002